

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 ACDA-12  
OES-07 L-03 ISO-00 /095 W  
-----076031 112355Z /61

O 112000Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 967  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1048

E.O. 11652: GDS

FOLLOWING BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO QUOTE

DE RUEBNEK #0158 1302230  
ZNY CCCCC  
P 102230Z MAY 78  
FM NAVFAC GRAND TURK  
TO RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RULSSAA/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC  
RUCBSAA/CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA  
RUEHCR/AMEMB NASSAU BAHAMA ISLANDS  
RUCLDHA/COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS PR  
RUCLBQA/DET 1 SAMTEC PATRICK AFB FL/CCE  
RUEBNEB/COMOCEANSYSLANT NORFOLK VA  
RUCLBQZ/US AUX AFB GRAND TURK

C O N F I D E N T I A L //N03800//  
REQUEST FOR TELEVISION TIME BY CHIEF MINISTER OF TURKS  
AND CAICOS ISLANDS (U)  
A. NAVFAC GRAND TURK #70900Z MAY 78 NOTAL  
1. (C) CHIEF MINISTER MCCARTNEY RETURNED TO GRAND TURK  
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THE EVENING OF 9 MAY 78 AFTER AN ABSENCE OF SEVERAL  
MONTHS FOLLOWING HEART SURGERY. HE HAS NOT YET RESUMED  
OFFICAL GOVERNMENTAL DUTIES OR RETURNED TO HIS OFFICE.  
AT 101300LZT HE ARRIVED AT THE NAVAL FACILITY FOR A  
VISIT W TH THE CO, TO REQUEST THAT A VIDEO TAPE BE  
TRANSMITTED ON THE NAVFAC AFRTS TV STATION.  
STATEMENTS THAT AFRTS REGULATIONS PROHIBIT SUCH

TRANSMISSIONS DID NOT SWAY MR. MCCARTNEYS POSITION THAT THE TAPE WAS URGENT IN NATURE AND SHOULD BE SHOWN AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

2. (C) IN VIEW OF THE RECENT ARSON AND CONTINUING POLITICAL UNREST IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, REPORTED REF A, ORIG AGREED TO REVIEW THE TAPE FOR CONTENT AND RELAY THE REQUEST FOR TRANSMISSION TO HIGHER AUTHORITY. CHIEF MINISTER MCCARTNEY DEPARTED THE NAVFAC LEAVING THE TAPE IN POSSESSION OF THE CO.

3. (C) GOV. WATSON, OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS, WAS CONTACTED BY CO, NAVFAC AND INVITED TO THE NAVFAC TO REVIEW THE TAPE FOR CONTENT AND COMMENT WHICH WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT 101600LZT MAY 78. THE TAPE DEALS WITH THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS AND IS PRESENTED IN AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL ORGANIZED AND NON-PARTISAN MANNER:

(A) CHIEF MINISTERS GRATITUDE FOR THOUGHTS, PRAYERS AND SUPPORT DURING ABSENCE.

(B) FITNESS AND WILLINGNESS TO RESUME RESPONSIBILITIES.

(C) NEED FOR COOPERATION AND UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

(D) PLEA FOR UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE YOUTH AND POLICE, INCLUDING RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND RESPECT FOR AND PROPER USE OF AUTHORITY.

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(E) WARNING THAT RECENT EVENTS COULD ONLY CAUSE FURTHER PROBLEMS THAT COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE ISLANDS.

(F) RECOGNITION THAT THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IS NOT GOOD IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS BUT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO BRING IMPROVEMENTS.

(G) REFERENCE TO BASE RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS IN THAT SOME REVENUE CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE FINAL AGREEMENT.

(H) REFERENCE TO THE CURRENT BRITISH GRANT IN AID POLINY AND HOPES FOR ALTERNATE FUNDING.

(I) REFERENCE TO APPOINTMENT OF NEW GOVERNOR TO SUCCEED GOV WATSON AND LONG TERM HOPE FOR AN ISLANDER TO ASPIRE TO THAT POSITION.

(J) CLOSING - APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT AND THANKS TO NAVFAC FOR MAKING VIEWING POSSIBLE.

4. (C) GOVERNOR WATSON BELIEVES THAT TRANSMISSION OF THE TAPE IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL INSTABILITY, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT A ONE TIME WAIVER BE OBTAINED TO ALLOW TRANSMISSION OVER THE NAVY AFRTS TV STATION. THE STATIO

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HAS SUFFICIENT POWER TO PROVIDE RECEPTION FOR APPROXIMATELY  
60 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS  
ISLANDS. THE CONTENTS OF THE 20 MIN TAPE ARE A REASONED  
APPEAL FOR CALM, LAW AND ORDER AND IF SHOWN WILL DO  
MUCH TO DE-FUSE THE SITUATION NOW DEVELOPING. THE  
CHIEF MINISTERS RETURN WAS A COMPLETE SURPRISE TO  
MR. SKIPPINGS AND MR. ASTWOOD WHO HE HAD LEFT IN  
CHARGE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEY ARE UNAWARE OF THE TAPE  
AND WILL BE FORCED BACK INTO SUBORDINATE ROLES BY  
POPULAR REACTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTERS DREMATIC  
RETURN.

5. (C) IT IS REQUESTED AN EARLY RESPONSE TO THIS MESSAGE  
BE PROVIDED, AS THE IMPACT OF THE CHIEF MINISTERS  
ADDRESS WILL DECAY IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO HIS TIME BACK  
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ON THE ISLAND. A RECORDING OF THE AUDIO PORTION OF THE CHIEF  
MINISTERS ADDRESS HAS BEEN MADE AND WILL BE FORWARDED IF  
SO DIRECTED.

GDS-84 UNQUOTE  
SCHWARTZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TELEVISION BROADCASTING  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**To:** STATE LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014